(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Jammu-Srinagar Rail Line

2870. KUMARI NIRMALA DESHPANDE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the progress of Jammu-Srinagar rail line; and

(b) how much time it would take to complete this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Jammu-Udbampur project has already been commissioned. Work is in progress on Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla project where overall progress is about 45%. On this project Kakapore-Budgam has been completed and Udhampur-Katra and balance on Qazigund-Baramulla are targeted for completion during 2007-08. Target for Katra-Qazigund section is under review in view of different geological conditions, adverse working conditions, forestry clearances and construction of bridges/tunnels involved.

Operation of container trains by Private Companies

†2971. SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BALAPTE:
SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:
SHRI VINAY KATIYAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to entrust the operation of container trains to the private companies;

(b) is so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of the private companies which have shown interest therein and applied therefor; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) the estimated annual profit Railways is likely to earn as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (d) The following fifteen operators have applied and all of them have been given 'in-principle approval' to operate container trains:—

1. Adani Logistics Ltd.
2. Boxtrans Logistics (India) Services Pvt. Ltd.
3. Central Warehousing Corporation.
4. Container Corporation of India Ltd.
5. Container Rail Road Services Pvt. Ltd.
6. Delhi Assam Roadways Corporation Ltd.
7. ETA Engineering Pvt. Ltd.
8. Gateway Rail Freight Pvt. Ltd.
9. Hind Terminals Pvt. Ltd. & MSC Agency (India) Pvt. Ltd.
10. Innovative B2B Logistics Solution Pvt. Ltd.
11. India Infrastructure & Logistics Pvt. Ltd.
12. Krishak Bharati Cooperative Ltd.
13. Pipavav Railway Corporation Ltd.
14. Reliance Infrastructure Engineers Pvt. Ltd.
15. Sical Logistics Ltd.

This will help Indian Railways to get additional revenue loading of 4-5 Million Tonnes container traffic in the current financial year, which is likely to increase with the development of facilities by these operators.